



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: CITY (FINALLY) FIXING THE HAWAII KAI SIGN

Today, after over two years of complaints and pressure from the community and Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu), the City has finally begun work to repair the City's infamous Hawaii Kai sign.

"I commend Mayor Hannemann and his administration for finally beginning the long over-due work to repair the long-neglected Hawaii Kai sign. I hope this repair will fix this taxpayer-financed community embarrassment. If nothing else, at least the public learned an expensive lesson that government should stick to the basics of core government services and leave flashy glamour projects to private developers," stated Councilmember Djou.

The Hawaii Kai sign was conceived by the Harris administration and was originally constructed in 2002. Initially, this sign welcoming people to Hawaii Kai was placed on the wrong side of the road and faced the wrong direction. After a re-engineering fix in 2003, the sign is still on the wrong side of Kalaniana'ole Highway, but it is now at least facing the correct direction. The sign was originally estimated to cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000, but ended up costing taxpayers over \$150,000. Almost immediately after construction the sign started to crack. The Harris administration promised to fix the sign before it left office, but never did.

The Hawaii Kai sign is located on the mauka corner of Hawaii Kai Drive and Kalaniana'ole Highway, across from the City's \$650,000 Maunalua Bay canoe halau. Construction and removal work on the sign is expected to start today around 8:00 a.m.

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